

The Occult Digest

Dedicated to the laws of higher Mind-Soul expansion

Volume 16

APRIL

Number 4

Established 1925 by Effa Danelson
Merged 1939 with *The Telepathic Magazine*

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20¢ per copy - \$2.00 per year

MARIE HARLOWE, Editor

The Occult Digest

Entered as Second Class Matter November 21, 1939, at the
Post Office at Chicago, Ill., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Published Monthly by

THE MAHA PUBLISHING COMPANY,

2727 W. 36th St., Chicago, Ill.

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20c single copy. Life Subscription \$100.00. Any amount in-
cluded over the subscription price received will be put into
our Free Literature Fund. 3 years to same subscriber for \$5.00.

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Occult articles and mystical-scientific poetry solicited. Pay-
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Advertising Rates: \$3.50 per inch, \$50.00 per page; inside
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EDITORIAL:

Important Announcement to News-Stand Readers - Excepting those dealers who sell a quantity and pay promptly, and those who regularly subscribe for definite orders, we are withdrawing the magazine from news-stand distribution. If you cannot get the magazine at your news-dealer, write us.

Since last November we have increased the circulation 300%! By adding The Telepathic Magazine subscribers, we added more than 100% to the then Digest subscription list; we have since added almost 100% in new and renewal subscriptions to the NEW Occult Digest.

Well, the Editor won't go in the garden and eat worms because no one loves her, because at the rate of renewals we are receiving in connection with March announcement, there won't be any garden to go into! We have received many fine expressions of encouragement, with renewals, but the majority have not responded at all. Our offer will still hold good throughout April, however, of giving 15 months subscription for 12 months, and three years and 6 months for a special three-year offer, for renewals.

A powerful secret occult brotherhood, the O.T.O., to which the Editor does not belong, teaches that the Truth should be stated and never amplified, explained, etc. Since "all things work together for good" and since there is a purpose back of all things, the lack of co-operation in this very small matter may mean that our work is changing to a definitely impersonal work--but there will be "weeping and wailing--gnashing of teeth" when this impersonalness will not respond, as heretofore, to pleas for healing, advice, instruction, etc. all freely given in personal letters to subscribers. (How coyly do so many of the subscribers write personal letters, adding at the end--"I was born so and so and my children were born so and so and my grand mother was born so and so--do tell us what is ahead in our astrological set-up".)

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CATS AND MAGNETISM

Marta Harlowe

Once when the chant of Mulzzin summoned him to prayers, Mohammed cut off the tail of his cloak rather than disturb the cat sleeping on it.

Cats have a definite connection with occult and magical lore and practices. Their worship in ancient days may be understood when animal symbolism is better understood.

Stories of the supernatural are in a large part tales connected with cats. Oriental and mediaeval tales of talking cats are common.

Lafcadio Hearn has a story, "The Boy Who drew Cats", of a young temple boy who was trained by a priest to draw cats, and who did this continuously. One night he slept in a deserted temple after having painted several cats on the white temple screens. In the night he heard the cries of fighting animals. In the morning he found a big rat dead on the floor, and blood-stains on the jaws of one of the cats he had painted the day before.

Algernon Blackwood has a story, "The Empty Sleeve", dealing with the occult extension of the human personality, of a man who found a cat in his room. He hit the cat with his sword, cutting off a front leg. The cat escaped out the window. The next day he met a man presumed to be his enemy, who had lost his arm the night before but about which loss no details would be given by the man.

The Norse goddesses' chariots were drawn by cats (symbolism). One cat, Bast or Pasht, was herself a goddess in ancient Egypt in 1600 B.C. Incidentally, the Egyptian word for "man" signified both light and cat, and their Sun God, Ra, was affectionately called "The Great Cat". Diana assumed the form of a cat to escape, and many witches confessed to taking the form of cats in a metempsychosis. Cats thus frequently shared the fate of flaming death with the witches. Black cats were indispensable in certain midnight ceremonial rites dedicated to the gods of the lower world. Dogs were not permitted in the ancient Roman Temple of Hercules, but cats were welcomed. In Egypt the

bodies of sacred cats were mummified and venerated above that of the workman or lower class of human, and in other Oriental countries cats were favorites at Court.

Naturally a great many superstitions abound concerning cats. In China a man who is afraid of cats in this life is said to have been a rat in his last incarnation. In Malay the combination of a bowl inverted on the head and a wet cat is supposed to bring rain to parched fields. Also the drowning of a cat in certain rites of ceremonial magic is supposed to bring rain. The noxious ceremonies of the Negro Voodoo, including the use of the brain of a cat as a love potion, includes the use of many cats. If a cat jumps over a corpse, the soul of the deceased is said to enter the body of the cat. If a farmer kills a cat, some of his live-stock will die. If a kitten comes to the house in the morning it is a good omen, in the evening, bad. If a cat comes to a theatre it is a harbinger of prosperity. Sailors believe a cat will always leave a ship before its last voyage is about to be made. It is, of course, the worst of bad luck to have a black cat cross one's path. (The Editor owns a shiny black cat.)

Cats are often held responsible for weather changes. (They are extraordinarily sensitive to coming weather changes, indicated by the fur, and their superior nervous organism becomes sensitive to the approach of big winds before man becomes conscious of them).

Aside from the skin and blood of cats being considered medicinal, cats are generally believed to have some health influence. Huckleberry Finn in *Tom Sawyer* considered dead cats efficacious in curing warts. The truth is that cats are highly magnetic (electrical) and thus have a beneficial influence on the people around them who seldom have petty ailments while the cat is close by.

Many people, especially Orientals, ascribe clairvoyance to cats, and Alexander Dumas told in detail of the prevision of his clairvoyant cat. Certainly cats can sense death, reacting in a restless, fearful way, and they have an uncanny ability to reckon time, as indicated with regular feeding periods. Cats are used more often than dogs by modern students of psychical research in investigations of haunted houses. (The auras of cats are green, as are

most quadrupeds). It was this particularly fine and sensitive nervous system of the cat which made him useful to the ancient sorcerers.

This Oriental and European folklore concerning witches turning into cats and back again refers to the transmutation of the magnetic force in man.

Persons who are electrical in life expression, dislike cats who are also electrical; people who are strongly magnetic love dogs better than cats, for dogs are magnetic. The balanced individual likes both cats and dogs equally well.

* * *

OUR CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION

Edmund K. Goldsborough

We prate of civilization and then sit supinely, while American-made bombs are being hurled on the heads of foreign women and babies from American-made planes. And "New Deal humanitarians" do nothing about it.

We chant "Lead, Kindly Light", while igniting wax tapers and then proceed to help illuminate battle-fields with blazing gun fire and bursting shells!

Dividends from munition makers are deposited in collection plates, while we piously sing psalms and agree that we should "love one another".

We decide it is time to "speed-up" manufacturing plants, in order that munitions may be supplied to the warring nations, providing they "pay cash". What an insult to the INFINITE!

A so-called civilization that thrusts "cash" to the fore, while relegating Christ to the rear, is not fit to endure. Our national house, erected on "golden sand", is destined to topple. It should be supplanted by a mansion built on DIVINE MIND and not on mires of matter.

All truth is crooked. - Nietzsche

THE EXACT MOMENT OF BIRTH

A. A. Voyz

The purpose of this work is to disclose a method whereby the essential features of one's human relationship can be determined.

The technique employed is similar to that used by the orthodox astrologer. The material presented here, although it bears some resemblance to both Eastern and Western Astrology, is not on the line of development of the Science of the Stars as viewed by modern astrologers.

The simplicity of the leading ideas is in contrast to the highly evolved and complex Art of Astrology as practiced today.

The modern astrologer insists that certain questions cannot be investigated unless the exact moment of birth is known, or is approximately known within a very narrow margin, so that a method of rectification (which incidentally is most expensive and not always successful) can be employed to ascertain the exact moment.

This insistence on exact data has led many to the extreme of denying that it is ever possible to *know* at what precise second a child can be said to have been born, thus in their minds relegating astrology to the ash-heap.

It is apparent from a study of the astrological output available in periodicals and books that astrology as a theory and as a practice are two distinct realities. The glibness with which the events of a person's life are made to fit the chart is evidence that exactness of the time of birth is not as serious in theory (or alibi) as it is assumed to be.

It is not my intention to ridicule the current practice of astrology--my purpose is to raise the question of how necessary the knowledge of the exact moment of birth really is. What features of a person's life are really and vitally connected with the moment of the first cry?

Prediction of the dates of subsequent important experiences (marriages, deaths of parents, etc.) will certainly be mentioned. Others will insist that since the cusps of

the houses are determined by the birth moment, practically nothing can be said of the person, or his life, with any degree of certainty. To these last I would ask, what is your proof? Show me the charts you possess with exact time and those without that essential factor known and point out wherein the first type excels the second. (Parenthetically, I have never seen a demonstration of this character in any magazine or book whatsoever.)

I will be pardoned, I hope, if I disagree with those who can only be certain when they know beyond a shadow of a doubt the rising degree at the instant the umbilical cord was severed.

To those who think thus, and their followers, - I will call attention to the remarkable number of cases of individuals born on the same day who have had similar events occur in their lives. Surely these cases must not be thrust aside and forgotten just because they do not accord with an astrological theory that has never been proved.

The existence of twins who have had identical events occur in their lives despite a difference in the degree of the Zodiac on their Ascendants also calls for calm consideration.

The fact is no one *knows* exactly what if anything is determined by the moment of birth.

With regard to prediction, the disuse today of primary directions either is due to the inability of modern astrologers to calculate them or they were discarded because they were not accurate--at any rate, we need not consider this method as few, if any, employ it. Progressions, however are used. It is apparently the principal technique in use today. But here I am at a loss to know what to say because already there are voices crying that Progressions are worthless. If Progressions are a false procedure, leading nowhere, then there is no need for me to consider them. I shall reserve discussion on them until a decision has been reached.

As an alternative to Progressions we find the Key Cycle System perfected by Wynn, the various personal systems of investigation and a host of other methods suggested today and forgotten tomorrow.

In fact, when I used the term Prediction I gave it the

meaning usually ascribed to it by the man on the street—the specification of certain dates on which a definite event will transpire.

Because the modern astrologer cannot do this, with the technique he uses, the word Prediction has now been watered down to mean the characterization of certain periods when a certain type of experience is more than likely to occur. It is this latter definition of Prediction that is meant by all using the term today. Naming of dates is a thing of the past, of which history bears evidence. Nostradamus in his famous "Prophetic Centuries" at least specified particular years and specific events, but no living astrologer gives any evidence of knowing the method of Nostradamus,—if as has been surmised it was astrological.

Since apparently no one today has a method of Real Prediction to apply to an exact chart, what is the use of insisting on precise data?

Incidentally, if one is only going to make an approximate or wide prediction, of what is to transpire, why the necessity for exactitude?

I have made the foregoing remarks to stimulate, if possible, the recognition that modern astrological methods and systems are highly faulty and lead to inaccurate and false conclusions.

There is one group of students of the stars that insists that astrology is only a kind of psychology and has nothing to do with *events* (except as certain events go with certain psychological types). I surmise that this limiting of the scope of astrology is an outcome of the inability to employ existing astrological methods for other purposes or ends.

In another place I have discussed the history of astrology, a subject little appreciated. That study confirmed my opinion that a return to Ptolemy and his method is necessary as a base on which to build a structure of astrological theory that will escape the scholastic accretions of the Middle Ages, and the cheap trumpery of the quacks of yester-year.

Let the reader ponder this fact: Ptolemy related the seasons to the heavens (the Zodiac) and it is by appeal

to the correspondence between meteorological conditions and human psychology and physiology that he proved the truth of his astrology. Today we find orthodox scientists producing proof of those correspondences. Ptolemy should be studied anew and with an open mind. As a sample of what you will discover, I append this item:

Why is the 12th House considered Evil? (I will not ask you upon what facts the present characterization of the houses is based). Ptolemy gives you the answer. The 12th House, ("called that of the Evil Daemon") is so-called "because the beams cast by the stars posited therein, towards the earth, are impaired by the thick and dark exhalations arising from the earth's vapors, which produce an unnatural color and magnitude in the appearance of stars so posited, confusing, and in some measure, annihilating, their beams".

I venture to say that you hardly expected to find such an excellent and logical answer!

The astrologers, today, possess a splendid opportunity to prove their contentions. Since orthodox science is about on the verge of recognizing that weather conditions and sun spots effect human life, all astrology need do is PROVE that it can PREDICT (true meaning this time!) weather conditions and the appearance of sun spots. Ask some and they will *tell* you they can do it, but where is the *proof*? They owe it to their beloved science to come forward and confound the world.

* * *

LOVE'S TELEPATHY Pauline Soroka Chadwell

*Tonight--and every night that I'm away,
No matter where I chance to be,
At midnight, I shall close my eyes and say,
'I love you so,-you must hear me'-
And every star will echo this phrase, dear,
Though we be many miles apart;
And oh, it may be that somehow, you'll hear
My words beating within your heart.*

THE DANGERS OF MYSTICISM

Reprinted from *The Equinox*

Aleister Crowley

A curious idea is being sedulously disseminated and appears to be gaining ground, that mysticism is the "Safe" Path to the Highest, and magic the dangerous Path to the Lowest.

One may doubt whether anything worth doing at all is free from danger, and one may wonder what danger can threaten the man whose object is his own utter ruin. One may also smile grimly at the integrity of those who try to include all Magic under Black Magic, as is the present trick of the Mystic Militant here on earth.

This is the magical theory, that the first departure from the Infinite is to be equilibrated and so corrected. So the "great Magician", Mayan, the maker of Illusion, the Creator, must be met in combat. Then, "if Satan be divided against Satan, how can his kingdom stand?" Both vanish; the illusion is no more. Mathematically, 1 plus (-1) equals 0. And this path is symbolized in the Tarot under the figure of the Magus, the card numbered 1, the first departure from 0, but referred to Beth, 2, Mercury, the God of Wisdom, Magic and Truth.

Now the formula of the Mystic is much simpler. Mathematically it is $1 - 1$ equals 0. He is like a grain of salt cast into the sea; the process of dissolution is obviously easier than the shock of worlds which the magician contemplates.

This path is symbolized by the "Fool" of the Tarot, who is like the Mystic and the Infinite.

This mystic life at its height is undeniably selfish the old lady who ended her criticism of the Universe, "There's only Jock an' me'll be saved; and I'm not sure o' Jock"; we find another who at the age of 99 foams at the mouth over an alleged breach of her alleged copyright; we find another so sensitive that the mention of his name by the present writer induces an attack of epileptic mania; if such are really "united with" or "absorbed in God", what

of the God? Of these the most characteristic sign is their exclusiveness. "We are the Men". "Ours is the only Way".

The Magician is not nearly so liable to fall into this fearful mire of pride as the Mystic; he is coupled with things outside himself, and can correct his pride. Indeed, he is constantly being corrected by Nature. He, the Great One, cannot run a mile in four minutes! The mystic is solitary and shut up, lacks wholesome combat. When the mystic meets an obstacle, he "makes believe" about it. He says it is only illusion. He has the morphino-maniac's feeling of *bien-etre*, the delusions of the general paralytic. He loses, the power of looking any fact in the face; he feeds on his own imagination; he persuades himself of his own imagination. If contradicted on the subject, he is cross and spiteful and cattish. If I say that Madam Y is not exactly St. Theresa, she writes a book to prove she is.

And the subtlety of the devil is shown particularly in the methods by which such neophytes are caught by the Black Brothers. There is an exaggerated awe, a solemnity of diction, a vanity of archaic phrases, a false veil of holiness upon the unclean shrine.

The Nun Gertrude, when it came to her turn to wash up the dishes, used to explain that she was very sorry, but at that particular moment she was being married, with full choral service, to the Savior.

Hundreds of mystics shut themselves up completely and forever. Not only is their wealth-producing capacity lost to society, but so is their love and good-will, and worst of all, so is their example and precept. Christ, at the height of his career, found time to wash the feet of his disciples; any Master who does not do this on every plane is a Black Brother.

Of the special dangers of the path there is here no space to write; each student finds at each step temptations reflecting his own special weaknesses. I have therefore dealt solely with the dangers inseparable from the path itself, dangers inherent in its nature.

Let him remember that an ounce of honest pride is better than a ton of false humility, although an ounce of true humility is worth an ounce of honest pride; the

man who works has no time to bother with either. And let him remember Christ's statement of the Law, "to love God with all thy heart, and thy neighbor as thyself".

* * *

But the spiritualistic theory is quite out of touch with the facts of multiple consciousness, alternate personality, etc.....

One curious thing about trance utterances is their generic similarity in different individuals. The "control" here in America is either a grotesque, slangy, flippant personality (Indian controls calling the ladies "squaws", the men "braves", the house a "wigwam" etc. are excessively common;) or, if he ventures on higher intellectual flights he abounds in a curiously vague optimistic philosophy-and-water, in which phrases about spirit harmony, beauty, law, progression, development, etc. keep recurring. It seems exactly as if one author composed more than half of the trance messages no matter by whom they are uttered. Whether all sub-conscious selves are peculiarly susceptible to a certain stratum of the *Zeitgeist* and get their information from it, I know not, but this is obviously the case with secondary selves which become "developed" in spiritualist circles.

There the beginnings of the medium's trance are indistinguishable from effects of hypnotic suggestion. The subject assumes the role of medium simply because opinion expects it of him under the conditions which are present; and carries it out with a feebleness or a vivacity proportionate to his histrionic gifts.

I am persuaded that a serious study of these trance-phenomena is one, if not the greatest, needs of psychology.

- Prof. William James,
American Science Series.

* * *

The path of progress leads over Golgotha.- Boodin

IN THE WORLD OF THE OCCULT

Reprinted from The Occult Digest, May 1925

Effa E. Danelson

In this field we are not hampered, for we have no limitation. That which was hidden from man yesterday is revealed today, that which is hidden today will be revealed tomorrow. Great minds, reinforced by those whose silence is power, are searching for the Truth of Life and they are going about it in no uncertain way. "Clear the deck" is their command. Search for truth at all costs! Man shall no longer doubt; he must succeed himself and sweep on.

Every thicket that has held a fear for man has been invaded, and whatever is false and whatever is true that may be concealed there must be uncovered, brought into the light of reason and be made to undergo the test.

In the world of the occult there is to be found the answer to every question that man may ask. Everything that man desires to know can be revealed by the power of creation at the seat of Wisdom within him. Man is not a vile thing, a worm of the dust. He is a maker of laws, a revealer of hidden things. When he lifts his eyes and sees the beauty of nature everywhere about him, the love of all things beautiful awakens the artist within him and his life vibrates in harmony. He must create; he cannot lie idle.

In the world of the occult, man finds his completeness, his reservoir of all supplies. His vision is unhampered and the universe reveals to him the hiding place of all her secrets, as the word spoken by Jesus in Matt. 10:26, "There is nothing covered that shall not be revealed, and hid that shall not be known". This statement is just as true today as it was recorded.

Nature has a higher end, in the production of new individuals, than security, namely, *ascension*, or the passage of the soul into higher forms.

- Emerson

METAPHYSICAL DYNAMITE

Arthur Foster

(Continuing from last month facts the Aspirant should know)

- 10- That one of the most difficult points for the student of metaphysics to grasp is that Psychism is not Occultism, and that there is a vast difference between spiritualism (spiritism) and spirituality; that the danger in meditation (sitting in the silence and all the other practices) lies in the fact that unless the student is able to keep positive and alert he is apt to slump into a dreamy negative state of consciousness, which is inimical to true spiritual growth and perception, and which, if persisted in, may lead to very undesirable mental, physical and psychical disturbances, and possibly to insanity.
- 11- That spirituality is not something that a man can get, but something that sooner or later gets every man.
- 12- That pity is a form of masochism and sadism, and that it has nothing at all to do with true sympathetic understanding and compassion.
- 13- That the Truth always appears in the nature of a Paradox and therefore can be taught only by Analogy.
- 14- That in order to avoid certain very great dangers which lie on this path you must learn in the very beginning to be absolutely honest; that neglect in this respect will surely result in failure and suffering; that you must learn to keep your word; that the way to avoid breaking your word is to never make a promise to yourself or to others, unless you are certain that you will be able to keep your word; and that this lesson is not so easy to learn as may appear on the surface.
- 15- That all things come by the body, and that only health puts us in tune with the Cosmos; that *spirituality is not etheriality*, and that one of the first things to learn is to acquire a good physical animal body. Because unless a man has a good physical body he does not have a good healthy blood stream, good vital organs or a good physical brain. If he does not have a good brain and

sound vital organs his perceptions, conceptions, instincts, intuition and reasoning power are all unreliable. Therefore it is necessary for one to become a good animal and a good man before it is safe for him to try to become a super-man.

16- That God Almighty will not have his works made manifest by cowards, weaklings and luke-warm advocates of expediency.

17- That we live in a Mathematical Cosmos; that there is a Law of Compensation which is as exact, universal and inexorable in its operation as the Law of Gravitation; and that there is no injustice or partiality.

18- That if you *do* the thing you *have* the power, and that if you do *not* the thing you have *not* the power; that so-called Religion amounts to nothing more than sounding brass and tinkling cymbals until it is put to work; that putting it to work is not child's play; and that it is just as dangerous for the novice to trifle with Transcendental Magic as it is for the unsophisticated, inexperienced apprentice to experiment with nitro-glycerine.

19- That growth in spiritual realization and power is an evolutionary activity; a scientific, not a sentimental consideration; that it is not a peaceful, namby-pamby, Pollyanna proposition, but a glorious, thrilling, dangerous, scientific adventure, and a *fight every step of the way*.

20- That the only possible way that a man can ever attain to Cosmic Consciousness is to become all things to all men, devoid of all prejudice, all superciliousness, all condemnation, all intolerance, and *with no reservations*.

21- That before the student can go very far he must get rid of all his vanity and self-pity; that he must pass a Poverty Test and an Affluence Test; and that he will pass the former long before he will be able to pass the latter.

22- That all advancement takes place thru Recognition, Appreciation, Association, Imagination, Transmutation, Sublimation, Dramatization and Polarization, in the truest possible scientific sense.

23- That while sexual sublimation and its powerful effect represents the ultimate goal, sublimation must not be confused with substitution, repression, inhibition, and consequent neurosis; that this is a distinction with a very

great difference; and that the power to truly sublimate is not acquired quickly nor easily.

24- That Life is not in the Form, but that the form is in the Life, and that this fact has very deep significance.

25- That the Inner World and the Outer World are *both* worlds of reality; the difference being that the Inner World is a World of Cause, and that the Outer World is a World of Effects; that, contrary to common opinion, the Inner World is objective (positive and causative) while the Outer World is subjective (negative to Consciousness) That one of the greatest mistakes which nearly all metaphysical novices make is in not realizing the fact that everything is real on its own plane of manifestation or being; that it is the height of folly to try to mix these planes; and that if a man is so unfortunate as to have one of his legs cut off in a saw mill, for instance, he needs a well-trained surgeon more than a new thought practitioner.

26- That we learn *only* by experience, and that it is therefore necessary for the aspirant to experiment, in ignorance, and consequently suffer from mistakes.

27- That our one vulnerable spot (our "Heel of Achilles") is our susceptibility to flattery, and that it is therefore the point where the Forces of Darkness continually work upon us; that we need to be ever vigilant, ever fortified, alert and positive in regard to this evil; and that what we need in this respect more than anything else is accurate power of perception and discrimination.

28- That it is necessary for the student to learn to love, serve, give, help and work without hope or expectation of compensation, commendation, or even recognition.

29- That conscience is man-made; (human concept of right thought, feeling and action); that it is therefore not an infallible guide to conduct; and that it has nothing to do with one's "Dharma" or true evolutionary path and destiny.

30- That another of the most difficult lessons for the student of Truth to learn is to be kind and generous, and at the same time to be able to protect himself from leeches, parasites, vampires and vultures, who frequently exist and persist in the form of one's own friends and loved ones and relatives.

31- That what happens to you is of no consequence; and

that the only thing which makes any difference to you is the way you *react* to what happens to you; because *the way you react to what happens to you will determine, to a very considerable extent, what will happen to you.*

32- That the Student must hold himself responsible for those who are below him in the Evolutionary Scale; and at the same time be amenable and obedient to those who are above him in realization and power.

33- That right from the very beginning the Aspirant will be misunderstood by many of his acquaintances and loved ones, and consequently disliked, feared, hated, maligned, persecuted and possibly annihilated for his aspirations and efforts; that he will be unknown and unrecognized by the Multitude, despised and rejected of men.

34- That he who ascends to mountain peaks shall find them covered with snow; and that he who rises above the ordinary level of mankind must learn to look down upon misunderstanding, fear, envy and wrath of those below, with no hatred but with true compassion, (Tolerance to the point of appreciation).

35- That infants need to have their food chopped up fine and administered to them in small doses; and that the Truth frequently has to be "stepped down" for the benefit of the uninitiated and unevolved ones, just as electricity from a power house has to be stepped down by a transformer in order that it may be available for use in one's home.

36- That while it is advisable for the student to try to be as wise as a serpent and as harmless as a dove, it is a great mistake for him to let people discover how wise and dove-like he may be; because if The Mob finds out how wise he is they will envy, fear, hate and persecute him; and if they find out that he is harmless and dove-like they will attempt to take advantage of him.

37- That justice frequently appears to the perverse and ignorant as cruelty and injustice; and that when we attempt to do unto others as we would have them do unto us, injustice is frequently done. Because we don't always know what the other fellow would like us to do unto him, not what is good for him; and because while it is easy enough to be kind, it is very difficult to be just.

38- That firmness without intelligence, honesty, knowledge,

love, common sense and a sweet sense of humor, is nothing more than stubbornness, stupidity, audacity, perversity, ignorance and arrogance.

39- That merely *knowing* the Truth will not make you free; that in order to be liberated you must *manifest* all the truth that comes to you.

40- That in order to grow you must *keep* the channel open at BOTH ends; that intellectual crystallization and spiritual dyspepsia are as bad as physical constipation; that you receive from above in exact proportion to the extent that you give out from below.

41- That we do not amount to much until we are able as well as willing and eager to help others; and that helping others sometimes necessitates a "stooping to conquer", a temporary bending, and sometimes a short trip down into the very depths of hell to get your man; and that this requires great understanding, great strength and a Great Love.

42- That the instant you take your first step on the Path you will find yourself attacked on all sides by all the Reactionary Forces of Ignorance and Darkness. Because the creatures of the darkness love the darkness, and hate the light which they instinctively know will dispel the darkness and cause them discomfort; and they cling to the darkness, and fight to protect it.

43- That one of the greatest dangers which confronts the student is his frequent strong tendency to yield to discouragement and despondency, to succumb to the constant temptation to misuse his newly acquired power for his own benefit, or to injure others; that this tendency is more pronounced in the realm of Metaphysics than in any other art or science; and that (for reasons which may not appear to the student in the beginning) very powerful subtle influences will be at work to frustrate the pupil and his Enterprise.

44- That if the Probationer perseveres, if he faints not, if he continues to fight the good fight hard enough, and keeps the faith long enough, he is certain to succeed, in the broadest and highest and most glorious significance. Because nothing is comparable to standing on the Vantage Ground of Truth. Only those who are able so to endure

will be given the Crown of Achievement. Unto none else. *Unto none else.*

If, after having given sufficient honest consideration to these facts, you decide of your own free will to enter this Realm, you will find upon entering that you are surrounded and upheld by a Brotherhood, the members of which are held together by closer ties than are known to any mere worldly relationship. This Brotherhood is made up of the Very Elect of the Earth, The True Intelligencia, The True Ecclesia, The True Aristocracy of the heart and mind and spirit; whose entire time is devoted to the Great Work of trying to guide Humanity out of the Darkness of Ignorance, Sensuality, Fear, Superstition, Envy, Hatred, and Cruelty into the ineffable Splendor of the Light. And you will discover that this Brotherhood stands upon a Ladder. And you will find that your Elder Brothers who stand above you on the innumerable rungs of that Ladder will help you, and cheer you, and console you, and sustain you and guard you, as you climb painfully, yet joyously, heroically and triumphantly upward toward the Light.

BUT HERE IS THE WARNING:

If your foot should happen to slip upon that Ladder, if you should break faith with your Brothers and helpers, if you should be so unwise as to yield to the powerful subtle temptations with which you will constantly have to contend and if you ever attempt to put your power to a perverted use, to injure or take advantage of one of those "little ones" who are below you in the Evolutionary Scale, "it were better that a millstone had been tied about your neck and that you had been cast into the sea"; because you will wake up some dark night of the soul to find yourself sobbing at the foot of that Ladder; and you will discover to your very great pain and sorrow that you have attempted to trifle with *Metaphysical Dynamite*.

* * *

Morning is when I am awake and there is dawn in me.

- Thoreau

From the Chapter Known as
THE RENUNCIATION OF GOD - TAURUS

From *The Equinox*, 1910

O my God, Thou mighty One, Thou Creator of all things,
I renounce unto Thee the kisses of my mistress, and the
murmur of her mouth, and all the trembling of her firm
young breast; so that I may be rolled in a flame in Thy
fiery embrace, and be consumed in the unutterable joy of
Thine everlasting rapture.

O my God, Thou mighty One, Thou Creator of all things,
I renounce unto Thee the green fields of the valleys, and
the satyr of the hills, and the nymph lilies of the meer;
so that I may wander through the gardens of Thy Splendor,
and be consumed in the unutterable joy of Thine everlast-
ing rapture.

O my God, Thou mighty One, Thou Creator of all things,
I renounce unto Thee the moonlight peaks of the mountains,
and the arrow-shapen kiss of the firs, and all the travail
of the winds; so that I might be lost on the summit of Thy
Glory, and be consumed in the unutterable joy of Thine
everlasting rapture.

O my God, Thou mighty One, Thou Creator of all things,
I renounce unto Thee the wine-cups of merriment, and the
eyes of the wanton bearers, and all the lure of their soft
limbs; so that I may be made drunk on the vine of Thy Splen-
dor, and be consumed in the unutterable joy of Thine ever-
lasting rapture.

O my God, Thou mighty One, Thou Creator of all things,
I renounce unto Thee all that Self which is myself, that
black sun which shineth in Self's day, whose glory blindeth
Thy Glory; so that I may become as a rushlight in Thine
abode, and be consumed in the unutterable joy of Thine ever-
lasting rapture.

(Next month - The Conjuraton of God - Gemini)

*While there is a lower class I am in it;
While there is a criminal element I am of it;
While there's a soul in prison I am not free.*

- Eugene V. Debs

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Edith Brandis

My husband was running the half dozen or more gas engines on a bridge job about 30 miles from town and came home only week-ends. I was not in direct communication with him at any time during the week.

One of his engines was very large and of a considerable horse-power. The engineer must find a way to apply his whole weight to its flywheel to start it on cold mornings. If the ignition caught properly and the engine started as it should there was little danger, but if it back-fired a man could be thrown thru the spokes of the wheel and his arms and legs be broken, many engineers having thus lost their lives.

One Monday I knew intuitively that there was danger in the atmosphere for one of my loved ones. As was a custom, I drew a circle around myself and thus located the quarter from whence came the threat. It was my husband in danger.

I began to treat the situation, repeating Psalms and other affirmations. Hours went by and finally the Dark Presence withdrew.

The following Saturday when my husband came home for his week-end he parted his hair and showed me a cut on his forehead, saying, "Last Thursday an inspector came to the job and when he saw the unprotected condition of the flywheel on the big engine he commanded the contractor to place a timber alongside it, so it wouldn't be so dangerous. Friday, when I went to start the big engine it backfired, throwing me against the engine and I cut my head on a sparkplug. If the timber had not been there I would have gone through the flywheel and I would have been torn to pieces. How lucky I am!"

My sister who was with us at the time knew of the foreknowledge and the long hours of mental work which aborted the accident, but my husband was a sceptic and neither of us told him anything about the warning received by me. I have had literally hundreds of telepathic experiences, but seldom mention them.

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FAITH IN THE MYSTERIES, by Earl G. Hamlett
Cokesbury Press, Nashville \$1.00

141 pages of clear faith in a chaotic world. The titles of its chapters give a clue to its depth and vision-"The Home of the Soul", "Seeing the Invisible", "Longing for the Larger Life", "The Language of the Silence", etc.

THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS, by Charles S. Braden
Cokesbury Press, Nashville \$1.50

Mr. Braden's experience in the Northwestern University, Department of History and Literature of Religion, no doubt aids him to present a comprehensive exposition of religion from its primitive form, throughout the ages, covering all the major world religions, and including the present New Thought, Christian Science, Spiritualism, etc.

AVATARAS, by Annie Besant, *Theosophical Press*, \$1.25

A valuable book dealing with the evolutionary stages of the world and the basis for world saviors. Also shows the Inner Self of each individual prepared by spiritualization to do a great work in the present work of the world.

SPACE MOVES THROUGH TIME by Jacob Levy, published by author. *paper cover, 60¢*

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